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FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION ACTIVITIES

ENGLAND, WALES, SWEDEN,
FINLAND, POLAND, AND SPAIN

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Abstracts from Recent Reports and Publications Received by
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England and Wales

Educational activities of women's institutes. - The 1925 report of the inspectors of the board of education on the educational work of women's rural institutes in England and Wales notes the remarkable growth of the movement, both in number of institutes and in educational activities in the 10 years since it began. In August, 1925, there were 3,129 institutes in England and 199 in Wales, and the development of educational activities had kept pace with the increase in number.

Organized first in 1915 for the purpose of increasing food supply during the war and of reviving small local industries, the institutes at present are endeavoring to provide training in practical and technical subjects for rural women, are doing much to prevent "rural exodus" by contributing to the improvement of village life, and are aiding local education committees in matters connected with child welfare work.

Aims of the institutes

The development of the work of the institutes has been brought about chiefly through older married women, as the young women and girls do not, as a rule, join the institutes and often go outside the home to earn money until they are married. In some countries, however, opportunities for education have been provided young women and girls through junior groups, and in others, girls from 15 to 18 years of age have been encouraged to attend courses as nonmembers.

The educational activities considered in the report of the board of education are divided into two groups and do not include a large number of classes, lectures, and demonstrations held under the direction of the ministry of agriculture. These two groups are "recognized courses of instruction," organized according to the regulations of the board of education for technical schools, and lectures, demonstrations, and short courses arranged by the county federations of institutes with or without the assistance of the local education authorities.

Groups of courses

Though the recognized courses of instruction still form a small part of the educational activities of the institutes, they are increasing in number and popularity, and each year facilities for holding such courses are being improved. Two groups of subjects are included in these courses:

Recognized courses

(1) General:

English literature, history, citizenship, arithmetic and household accounts, singing and music.

(2) Practical:

(a) Domestic sciences: Cooking, laundry work, odd jobbing, simple carpentry, household upholstery, needlework, embroidery, dressmaking, millinery, women's tailoring, housecraft and organization, child welfare and home nursing.

(b) Handicrafts: Work with wool, leather, metal, rush, cane, raffia, and fabrics.

The second group of educational activities, usually single lectures and demonstrations arranged by the county federations, with or without the assistance of the local education authorities, often pave the way for regular short courses. A list of approved lecturers on subjects of interest to the institute members is prepared by each county federation, sometimes with the help of rural community councils, and sent to each village, so that the institutes may select such subjects and lecturers as their funds allow. Lectures on subjects of general interest have hitherto been more in demand than those on practical subjects. For instance, in Oxfordshire, where 105 subjects were chosen in one year, 74 were subjects of general interest. Some of the titles of these lectures were: "County History," "Foreign Travel," "What Schools Can Do," "Women in Local Government," and "Ancient Greece and Her Love of Beauty."

The committees of the various local institutes apply to the county federations when they wish to hold courses, and all arrangements are generally made by the executive committees of the federations in cooperation with the local education authorities. Circulars sent by the local education authorities to the local committees of the institutes as well as to the county federations state what assistance they are able to give. This assistance includes instructors' services and traveling expenses; loan of premises; cleaning, heating, and lighting of premises; equipment for classes; and grants for educational work for which no appropriation has been made. All these services are given by some of the authorities, only one or two by others, and some give no assistance. The length of a course is from 10 to 48 hours, varying according to the subject and the district in which it is held, and of a lesson $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 hours. The longer courses are generally held in urban districts in places easily reached, and the shorter ones often in the more remote country places, with classes sometimes on consecutive days on account of special conditions. Each member attending a course pays a fee varying from 2 shillings to 7 shillings 6 pence. If the institute furnishes the room and pays the instructor's traveling expenses, this fee is used toward meeting these expenses, otherwise the local education authority receives the fees. School rooms, parish halls, war memorial halls, and even rooms in private houses are used for holding lectures and classes. Sometimes the institutes are given the use of large private kitchens for afternoon classes. In some of the villages classes are held in turn at the homes of the members. When the institutes contribute to the building of a war memorial hall, the problem of a meeting place is solved, and in this case their needs are considered in the way of tables, chairs, and provisions for cooking classes. The National Federation of

Women's Institutes is encouraging this cooperative building in preference to putting up halls exclusively for the institutes, as community spirit is thereby fostered, and upkeep, tenure of land, and similar matters are eliminated.

Among the courses arranged for the members of the women's institutes, the dressmaking course is proving one of the most popular. The instruction includes drafting patterns, choice of material, styles, color, cutting out and making dresses. It has been found most advantageous to hold the classes at intervals of a week so as to give the pupils time for practical work at home and to discover difficulties which they can have solved at the next class. The equipment used in the dressmaking course is a black-board, a dress stand, a table on which garments may be cut out, and a full-length mirror. Millinery is one of the least popular courses as ready-made hats are very much in favor, and the plan of giving instruction on two successive days has not proved as satisfactory as the one adopted in the dressmaking course, as it allows the members little time for home practice. The course in upholstery is one of the most valuable of the practical courses and appeals to women who live at a distance from town and can not easily have their furniture repaired.

The subject of health has been introduced into the educational program of some of the county federations. Needs of the baby, the child of preschool age, the school boy and girl, as well as the mother and the wage earner are considered in the lectures and courses. The courses usually consist of 7 lectures, and 12 is the minimum number of pupils admitted to a course. A popular course, which is included under health subjects, is the discussion of labor-saving methods in housework. Baby welfare centers have been established in two villages and one institute has opened a school clinic.

One of the great problems of the institutes in organizing classes is to find properly qualified teachers. The teachers may be classed as trained, untrained, or partly trained persons. In counties where close cooperation is maintained between the local education authority and the county federation of institutes, trained teachers are members of the county staff. In only a few cases, however, are they able to devote most of their time to women's institutes. Trained teachers usually conduct the dressmaking, needlework, and cooking classes. Persons who have not had special training may be qualified for teaching classes held by the institutes by attending courses in needlework or dressmaking given by the board of education, courses under the guild of learners' scheme, courses at a handicraft studio, or organized by a local education authority. Persons with trade experience also may conduct classes.

A special grant has been made from the development fund since 1922 to encourage handicrafts. In 1925, two organizers of handicraft were appointed, a guild of learners was formed, and classes are now held regularly to assist in training instructors in handicrafts. In accordance with this scheme, a person who enters the handicraft classes for training must be a member of a women's institute, with recommendation from the county federation; must agree in writing to take the "preliminary tests" to qualify as a women's institute teacher; and to teach, if required, within a reasonable distance from her own home. Some of the subjects taught in the handicraft classes are: Artificial flower making, basketry, bookbinding, carpentry, chair making, needlework, raffia weaving, rug making, cobbling, crocheting, dressmaking, embroidery, furcraft, rush work, glove making, lace making, millinery, toy making, upholstery, weaving, and spinning. The course in each subject lasts a fortnight, and after three months' practice, the student takes the "proficiency test A," which consists of showing specimens of her work. Later she takes the "proficiency test B," which is a demonstration before three judges representing the national federation. Persons who are taking training for handicraft teaching are not required to do any class teaching and are not instructed in teaching methods. In 1925, 372 women held a "proficiency certificate," 78 being certificated demonstrators.

Rural continuation classes. - A memorandum sent recently to local education authorities by the interdepartmental committee of the ministry of agriculture and the board of education gives suggestions for holding rural continuation classes for boys and girls from 14 to 16 years of age, in accordance with revised arrangements contained in letter of November 25, 1925, issued by the twodepartments.

As the 1921 census showed that there were more than 60,000 boys and girls from 15 to 16 years of age who were earning money in agricultural work, besides a large number engaged in farm or rural work who were not earning wages, the committee called attention to the need of providing instruction for those young persons to keep up their interest in an agricultural career. In their memorandum the interdepartmental committee suggests that organized courses be arranged by the county agricultural education authorities to supply the lack of general and technical education for young people in rural districts who have just left the elementary school and are not old enough to attend a farm institute or take advantage of other instruction organized by the county agricultural staff for those 16 years of age and over. The furtherance of young farmers' clubs is especially recommended as a means of promoting interest in general and technical education.

One difficulty in organizing continuation classes is that young persons earning wages would not be able to take the time to attend day classes, and the farmers employing them would not be willing to pay for time spent in class work. Another difficulty is to select suitable centers in sparsely settled neighborhoods which can be easily reached by rail or omnibus. Local authorities are advised to consider the special needs and circumstances of

the pupils in various localities in arranging classes. The pupils should not be allowed to feel that they are going back to school, but the club spirit should be encouraged, and they should be free to express their ideas as to arrangement of classes, selection of subjects, and general conduct of the course. In selecting teachers, the memorandum advises that preference should be given to persons who have had training and experience in teaching pupils under 16 years of age, and recommends that some member of the county agricultural staff should give instruction in agricultural subjects.

The committee suggests that a course should extend over two or more winters and the subjects should be arranged in cycles to do away with first and second courses at the same center. Four to six hours of instruction a week are advised, distributed according to one of the following plans, to suit different localities:

Distribution
of time of
instruction

- (1) Two evenings a week for two hours each.
- (2) The afternoon and evening of one day.
- (3) Two afternoons a week.
- (4) A whole-time course lasting from two to six weeks.
A course of this kind might be arranged for girls.
- (5) One day a week during a period of perhaps 12 weeks.

The following four groups of subjects are suggested in the memorandum, a selection to be made from each group for each center:

Groups of
subjects

Group 1. English subjects: Literature, composition, history, geography, and rural economy. For both boys and girls.

Group 2. Mathematics: Application of arithmetical principles to rural problems, farm bookkeeping, simple surveying and leveling. Farm bookkeeping for both boys and girls.

Group 3. Rural science: Elementary study of air, water, soil, plant and animal life; nature, composition and action of manures and foods, study of heat and mechanical powers.

Group 4. Craftsmanship: For boys: Training in the use of ordinary hand implements, instruction in farm processes, such as ploughing, hedging, draining, stacking, thatching, planting and pruning fruit trees, spraying crops, care of farm animals and dairy work; management of farm machines; woodwork including the use and care of tools, identifying various timbers, preservation of materials, making and repairing various tools and appliances for rural use. For girls: Instruction in care of live-stock, dairying, poultry keeping, horticulture, beekeeping, laundry work, home management, food preparation and preservation. Some of these subjects are suitable also for boys.

Instruction in English, arithmetic, rural and domestic science should be given with regard to their bearing on the pupils' occupations.

Extension instructors in 1926. - In 1926, 324 men and women gave their whole time to extension instruction in England and Wales. They were distributed as follows:

- 49 agricultural organizers employed in 53 counties.
- 77 agricultural instructors employed in 31 counties.
- 77 horticultural instructors employed in 54 counties.
- 47 dairy instructors employed in 28 counties.
- 36 poultry instructors employed in 33 counties.
- 23 instructors in dairying and
poultrykeeping combined employed in 20 counties.
- 6 farriery instructors.
- 3 beekeeping instructors employed in 3 counties.
- 2 instructors in veterinary science employed in 4 counties.
- 2 farm accounting instructors employed in 4 counties.
- 2 instructors in manual processes employed in 2 counties.

S w e d e n

The young farmers' league - At the annual meeting of the young farmers' league (Jordbrukare-Ungdomens Forbund, or J.U.F.) in 1925, where regulations were adopted for the direction of the groups, the league was declared to be an association of farm youth, of other young people throughout the nation, and of persons interested in the aims of the organization. The objects of the league, as stated at this meeting, are to encourage the whole-some development of the country's principal means of livelihood, to increase the interest of farm youth in and their fitness for the farming profession, to improve country life conditions, and to counteract "rural exodus."

The league is a nonpolitical body with three classes of members:

Classes
of
members

- (1) Active members who are engaged in the activities of the league and are connected with some local group.
- (2) Supporting members who are interested in the aims of the league pay an aggregate fee of not less than 100 kroner (\$26.80) for their furtherance, or a yearly fee, which is determined in the regular annual meeting.
- (3) Persons who represent the league in localities where there are no groups, distribute its journal and pamphlets, endeavor to interest the public in the purpose of the league, and organize new groups. The representatives and active members do not pay membership fees.

Activities The regulations state that the league will attain its object through inspiring the members with love for their native place; awakening interest in and understanding of the business of farming through organizing competitions in vegetable growing, plowing, milking, home industries, and other lines of farm and home work; encouraging young people to conduct enterprises of their own, and teaching them to make good use of the money thus earned; interesting boys and girls in lectures, study clubs, evening schools, home industry and Red Cross courses, in social work, such as assistance to the aged and sick, care and beautifying of church and school

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yards, and other public places, forestation, wholesome and refining amusements, physical training through sports and athletics, and outdoor life of every kind.

The aim of the league is, where possible, to form a local group in each parish, which is designated by the name of the parish. For example, a group organized in Arbro parish would be known as the Arbro group of the young farmers' league.

Formation of groups Two or more groups may be organized in larger parishes, and two or more very small parishes may form the territory of a local group. A local group may be divided into several small groups, as one or more study circles, a singing club, an orchestra, an athletic club, a junior group for the younger members, and groups for organizing various kinds of competitions.

A board composed of at least three adults directs the activities of each local group. One of the members of the board is the leader or president of the group, and special leaders, who are legitimate members of the board, must be chosen for various lines of work; for example, study leaders, competition leaders, choir leaders, leaders of athletic and home industry work, and of folk dances. Each local group should choose an agent to distribute the pamphlets published by the league and secure subscribers for its journal, and a press reporter to furnish information on the activities of the groups to the local papers. The president of the local group must keep a list of members, direct the activity of the group in accordance with the regulations adopted by the league; submit programs and reports of the work to the board of directors of the league, and if necessary, procure assistance to direct various lines of work. When the resources of the league permit the president receives a compensation for this work, the amount of which is determined yearly by the board.

Local administration

The central administration of the affairs of the league is vested in a board of directors consisting of at least 10 members with 4 deputies or substitutes. The board chooses from its members a president, a vice-president, a secretary, a treasurer, and a study leader. The members of the board of directors are rectors of churches, agronomists, farmers, owners of farm estates, State advisers, and university officials. The working committee of the board is composed of the five officers named above and three other members designated by the board. The board of directors meets at least twice a year, while the working committee comes together whenever it is considered necessary. The functions of the board of directors are:

Central administration

(1) To dispense the funds of the league and determine their uses.-

(2) To draw up a yearly plan of work, which is submitted for approval at the annual meeting.

(3) To submit a report each year on the work of the league and the disposal of its funds.

The duties of the secretary of the board of directors is to give publicity to the work of the league in the manner determined by the board, handle the league's correspondence, supervise the work of the groups, and edit the journal published by the league. The treasurer of the board of directors is required to keep strict account of the league's receipts and expenditures, receive fees and donations, and make disbursements. The league holds one regular annual meeting which is attended by members of the local groups and supporting members. At this meeting the annual report of the board of directors is presented and members of the board and auditors are elected. Various matters of interest to the league which must be announced by a member or a local group at least a month beforehand are discussed at this time.

	A larger number of new groups were formed during 1924-25, the sixth year of the league's existence, than during any previous year, and the increase in numbers was accompanied by a great extension of activities. At the close of the year there were 204 groups, 41 being new groups, with 8,280 active members, besides 179 passive members, against 6,748 active and 158 passive members the previous year.
Increase of members in 1924-25	

	During the financial year 1924-25, the league received a State contribution of 10,000 kroner (\$2,680), a grant of 10,000 kroner from the general agricultural society of Sweden, and 3,000 kroner (\$804) from the Clara Lachman endowment fund. In accordance with the wishes of the agricultural society, the grant received from that organization was used in connection with expenses of various kinds for competitions held on "Jordbrukets dag" (agriculture day) in various places throughout the country. The Clara Lachman grant was made to promote fellow feeling between Danish, Norwegian, and Swedish farm youth, especially through exchange of speakers between the rural young people's organizations in these countries. A plan of action was drawn up by the working committee of the board of directors of the J.U.F., in accordance with which the president of the Norigs Ungdomslag, the Norwegian farm youth's organization, visited the Swedish groups in June, 1924. Later in the month the vice president and the secretary of the Swedish League made a 10 day's trip to Norway, visiting some of the young people's societies and attending the annual meeting of the Norigs Ungdomslag. In this way a close bond was formed between the Swedish and the Norwegian farm youth's associations. An article in the Norwegian number of the J.U.F. Journal, which appeared September 15, gave an account of the experiences and impressions of this trip, and a large number of copies of this issue were placed at the disposal of the Norigs Ungdomslag. In November, officials of the J.U.F. went to Norway for a 14 days' visit, and a lecture was given each day to groups of the Norigs Ungdomslag. After returning to Sweden one of the officials gave a lecture on the Norwegian farm youth movement. Arrangements had also been made for the leader of the work with Danish young farm people to come to Sweden to lecture on the beginnings of the club movement in Denmark, but his death during the summer prevented this part of the program from being carried out.
Grants during 1924-25	

As a result of negotiations between the board of directors of the league and the International Education Board, a grant of \$5,000 was made to the J.U.F. to be used during 1925, especially as an aid in supplying trained leaders for the groups. One of the great needs of the work with farm boys and girls in Sweden up to this time had been the lack of good leaders with the proper interest in and the necessary education for instructing the young people. In a few provinces an agricultural society adviser or an itinerant steward was giving a large part of his time to the work, but in many cases good leadership was lacking. With the funds received from the Rockefeller Foundation the league planned to employ full-time workers in some provinces.

The work of the J.U.F.'s Film Central did not attain the proportions desired. Educational motion pictures upon which the officials of the league had counted as a valuable aid in the service of information and instruction did not receive the favor hoped for them. During the year 107 exhibitions were given. Some films were shown separately, and others in connection with a lecture or during the holding of courses or "days" of various kinds. Sixty lectures accompanied by motion pictures were given by agricultural society officials, and the manager of the Film Central gave 20 lectures at which motion pictures were shown. Most of the films were the property of the Film Central, a few were rented, some from the agricultural society, and others from the Swedish Film Industry.

There was a large increase in the number of competitions held by local groups. The competitions were conducted in plowing, milking, root crops and flax growing, gardening, agricultural experiments, pastures, canning garden products, packing and sorting fruit, home industries for men and women, account keeping, fertilizers, judging animals, and exhibiting horses.

The study work of the groups including study courses, lecture courses, and evening schools, made a satisfactory showing during 1924-25. One hundred and thirty study circles were conducted with 1,154 members against 60 with 171 members the previous year. Some of the subjects studied were Swedish country life, agriculture, stock-raising, Swedish language, bookkeeping, farm bookkeeping, care of pastures, electricity in farming, nature study, care of gardens, care of forests, fertilizers, physics, astronomy, citizenship, home industries, physiology, and literature.

F i n l a n d

The "Martha" Association. - The "Martha" Association, one of the most important women's organizations in Finland, was founded in 1899, at a time when Finland's existence as a nation was threatened by Russia's political, expansion, for the purpose of strengthening national spirit in the home through raising the moral and intellectual standard of the women and interesting them in practical work. With changed conditions greater emphasis has been laid upon the practical side of the work of the association, and the leaders devote their energies to instructing the women in home management, care of children, domestic hygiene, cooking, gardening, poultry raising, apiculture, as well as teaching them various kinds of handicraft, with a view to increasing the comfort and well-being of the home. Though the larger portion of the work of the Martha Association is with rural women, among its members are women of all grades of education and from every social rank, and as a consequence, considerable intellectual and financial assistance is available.

As the work of the organization increased from year to year, the existence of two languages, Swedish and Finnish, caused a great deal of confusion, and made the work more and more difficult to handle. Accordingly, in the spring of 1924, it was decided to reorganize the association, and divide it into two separate bodies - the Swedish Marthas and the Finnish Marthas. In 1925, the two organizations began to work as distinct bodies, but conducted their activities according to the general lines that had been pursued since the founding of the association 25 years before. Each body worked under the direction of its own administrative council, composed of 12 members, but for outside representation and for activities in which the two organizations collaborate, there is a central committee with three members from each body, the president of which is chosen for a year, alternately, by the Finnish and Swedish societies.

The figures given in the report of the Martha Association for 1924, the last year in which the Swedish and Finnish societies worked together as one organization, show the extent of their activities. The 399 branches with a membership of 31,702, held 4,804 large meetings, 31,702 smaller gatherings, and gave 1,081 lectures. They conducted 40 courses in care of the home and children, 255 in home industries, 243 in food preparation, 96 in canning, with a total attendance of 9,171. In addition, 810 new gardens were planted, making 6,810 gardens maintained under the care of the association, 303 poultry yards and 81 apiaries were managed. Two hundred sixty two persons were employed to give advice to members.

As one of the main objects of the work of the Martha is to improve the economic condition of the small home, the women are encouraged to engage in home industries and trades as a means of increasing the family income. Thus in many cases poultry-raising has become an important source of revenue. Weaving curtains and doll making are two very lucrative lines of manual work. The latter industry, which began in a

small way in 1920, has developed rapidly until it has become one of the most important enterprises of the women of the town of Abo. In 1925, 85 housewives of that town were employed in doll making, and the receipts amounted to more than 1,000,000 Finnish marks (about \$200,000.00). A large part of the profits from this enterprise is used in subventioning the work of the association.

In the meetings which are held weekly or monthly by the clubs into which the affiliated societies are divided, the program is varied. The women sew, listen to talks, engage in discussions; sometimes a housekeeping course is held, and instruction given in cutting out garments, home dyeing, making hats, cooking, making toys, and the like. Some of the subjects of lectures and discussions at those periodical meetings are: Women's influence in the Home, Duties of Marthas to Home and Children, Care of the Home, Furnishing the Home, Help in Household Service, Bread Baking, Home Hygiene, First Aid in Accidents, Home Industry, Harvesting and Packing Fruit, Beekeeping, the Dairy, Forming a Milk Control Society, and Collaborating between Neighboring Societies. Excursions to model farms and schools are arranged to give the housewives opportunity to become familiar with improvements in household economy. Expositions are held and prizes awarded for the best products and an annual fair organized at Helsingfors by the central committee affords a good contribution to the receipts of the association.

A large amount of money is required to conduct the many activities of the association. The State makes a moderate annual contribution but the bulk of its funds is received from the communal agricultural societies, banks, private persons, and other sources.

The good influence of the Martha Association is felt all over Finland. A spirit of harmony and good will prevails where societies exist; bonds of mutual sympathy are formed between the members and cares and troubles are forgotten at their meetings and fetes.

In 1926, the two bodies had a total membership of 33,000 with about 500 local societies.

P o l a n d

Rural boys' and girls' clubs. - Since the World War the organization of clubs of rural young people in Poland has received a decided impetus. Two organizations of considerable importance exist at the present time - the Association of Rural Young People and the Union of Polish Youth.

The Association of Rural Young People did not come into existence spontaneously. The idea of organizing rural boys and girls into clubs was first conceived by certain young people of the villages upon returning home after finishing courses in the agricultural schools. Realizing the need of raising the intellectual standard of their

Association of
Rural Young People

comrades, they enlisted the aid of willing-minded persons in forming them into clubs with a view to their moral and professional development. In 1919, these young people's clubs were united into a central association and were given the support of agricultural clubs, professional and commercial organizations of the rural people of Poland. In 1926, 2,550 clubs with a membership of about 90,000 belonged to the Association of Rural Young People. The members of a club are both boys and girls, 16 years of age and over. The principles of independence and autonomy govern the organization and the work of the clubs. The young people arrange their program of work, determine the internal organization and the form of the club, elect their officers (president, vice president, and secretary), and assume control of all activity in the general assemblies. A delegate of the agricultural clubs is a member of the official staff, and in this way persons who have had experience in social work, supervise and protect the young people's work.

The activities of the Association of Rural Young People are both educational and agricultural in character. The educational part of their program of work includes the extension of knowledge acquired in the primary schools, wholesome sports, training of an artistic nature, the organization of choirs, orchestras, theatricals, and evening entertainments. The agricultural activity of the clubs includes the establishment of agricultural schools, courses, and lectures on all branches of farming for the benefit of the club members; participation in agricultural expositions; organization of livestock competitions; and the cooperative buying of modern farm implements. The clubs publish several periodicals, among them, "Siew," (Seed) and "Młoda Polska," (Young Poland). The association has formed contact with rural young people in other countries. In 1923, at a meeting in Prague, a decision was made to form an organization of rural young people of all the Slavonian countries, with a view to combining the civilizing and pacificatory efforts of these nations. The first congress of the Slavonian Association of rural youth was held in Lublana, Jugoslavia, in 1924, and was attended by Poles, Czechoslovakians, Bulgarians, Serbs, and Jugoslavians. The Slavonian association is planning to invite other nations to take part in its work. If these plans are carried out, the association will change its name and become an international organization.

The Union of Polish Youth was founded in 1919 by Abbot Adamski and has more than 100,000 members at the present time. The main object of this association is to organize boys and girls from 14 to 25 years of age into separate societies to insure their receiving "after school" instruction and to develop their character. The motto of the organization is "God and Country," and the aim of each society is, first of all, to make good citizens and Christians of its members. The organization is based on the principles of decentralization. Though the boys and girls are organized into separate societies, they often combine their efforts in the case of an enterprise of common interest.

Each society or club is administered by an office composed of six club members at least 17 years old, who hold their positions for two years. The work of the office is under the control of a "protectorate," appointed by the society, composed of patrons and delegates of societies and forming a special group in each diocese. The protectorate is not allowed, however, to interfere in any way with the free action of the young people in their program of work. The central control of the union is vested in the supreme council, which elects its president and a director, who is the executive officer of the union. The office and the "protectorate" of each club meet at least once a month to discuss improvements to be made, enterprises to be undertaken, and to prepare a program of work to be considered and voted on in the general assembly.

Organization

The union of Polish Young People, with 60 per cent of its members rural boys and girls, gives preparation for life in the country a prominent place on its program of work. For the young men there are lectures, competitions, care of gardens; and for the girls, housekeeping study clubs are formed, those displaying the most intelligence being sent to housekeeping schools conducted on the plan of the Belgian institutions, and now on the increase in Poland. The meetings of the clubs differ according to the special needs of the region or the village in which they are held, and no uniform program can be given. The members of a club usually meet once a week or twice a month to hear a lecture by one of their number, listen to musical performances, and take part in games. In summer these meetings are often held out of doors, and in winter in the primary school buildings. Excursions are often organized to give the young people opportunity to become acquainted with the beauties of their native land as well as to study progress made in other parts of Poland. A library and a printing office are connected with the union and are organized as a joint-stock society under the name of "Ostoja," with a capital of about \$200,000.00. This society issues a great many publications relating to the work of the union and the interests of its members, besides four periodicals, suited to members of different groups and ages.

Activities

These two organizations of Polish young people are absolutely nonpolitical in character. The central authorities are interested in their development and are endeavoring to aid them in carrying out their program. Young People's clubs are recognized as important agencies in the education of rural youth, not only of the young people of the villages, but also the more privileged boys and girls on the large farms and estates.

S p a i n

Service of itinerant chairs. - Itinerant instruction in agriculture and stockraising has been one of the activities of the National Agronomic Service for some years, and in spite of poor organization, scarcity of funds, and equipment, has produced beneficial results. To place this instruction on a

Royal decrees

better organized and more systematic basis, a royal decree was issued October 18, 1926, providing for a Service of Itinerant Chairs and for the appointment of two inspector generals to supervise the service and make arrangements regarding personnel and equipment. A decree issued March 24, 1927, gives detailed regulations and provisions in regard to the creation of this service.

Twelve
itinerant
chairs

The decree provides for 12 itinerant chairs, one for each of the regions into which the kingdom is divided; namely, Central, Aragon-Rioja, Cataluna, Levante, Eastern Andalusia, Western Andalusia, Mancha and Extremadura, Castellano-leonesa, Asturias and Galicia, Cantahro-pirenaica, the Canary Islands, and the Balearic Islands. At the headquarters of each chair, which is generally the regional grange school, and in a few cases, the agronomic section, the equipment needed in the instruction will be assembled, trips arranged, and all work performed which arises as a result of the expeditions and which can not be done in the field. Here also will be prepared the plans and reports of each campaign.

Personnel of
a chair

The personnel of a chair will include a chief; an engineer professor or specialist in each of the most important branches of farming of the region, as collaborators; "aspirantes" or candidate engineers as assistants, not more than four for each chair or 45 for the entire number; persons who are being trained for the work; and a force of workmen, consisting of a motor truck driver, a mechanic for handling and repairing equipment, and a farm laborer, for tillage work, pruning, and other cultural operations. The chief is appointed by the general board of agriculture and forests at the suggestion of the inspector, and engineer professors who have distinguished themselves in the special branches in question are selected by the chief as his collaborators. The candidate agronomic engineers are required to undergo an examination prescribed by the general board of agriculture and forests to determine their fitness as assistants of the chiefs. The mechanics, truck drivers, and farm workers are the same classes of persons as those employed in these capacities at the grange schools, and no examination is required except when specialists in these branches are needed. The chief arranges the trips for the staff, prepares the equipment needed, publishes the annual plan of work, with a statement of the funds required, and draws up the accounts for the personnel and equipment.

Campaigns

Two campaigns will be conducted every six months. The chiefs and engineer professors will not spend more than 20 to 40 days each in the field every year, and the assistants 120 to 180 days each. During the intervals between trips the assistants will work at the regional grange under the orders of the director, in experimental and laboratory work, preparatory or supplementary to their work in the field. The dates of the campaign will be published in advance in the official bulletin of the province, with the subjects to be handled and the districts and towns to be visited. The itinerant professors will hold their lectures in a building or in the open country, according to circumstances, illustrated in one case by motion pictures

or lantern slides, and in the other accompanied by demonstrations of the practices recommended. Soils, wines, oils, and other products are analyzed, seeds examined, and other services of like nature performed as far as possible in the field. When this work can not be conveniently done during the trips, samples will be obtained and sent to headquarters for attention later.

Each chair will be provided with the following equipment:

Apparatus for motion pictures and lantern slides, and a collection of films.

Equipment
of chairs

A microscope.

Equipment for making analyses of wine, oil, milk, and so forth.

A calcimeter.

Pulverizers, instruments for applying sulphur to vines, insecticides, and materials for combating plant diseases.

In addition, such of the equipment belonging to the grange school as the chief of the chair may think useful in the work.

The general board of agriculture and forests has invited official, provincial, and local corporations, and agricultural and stock-raising organizations to collaborate in this work by helping to provide equipment, land, and buildings.

